

Amendments to the Drawings:

The attached drawing sheet includes a change to Figures 5A-5D. Specifically, Figure 5D is being removed. Please find attached, for the Examiner's review, an annotated sheet showing the proposed change. Approval by the Examiner is respectfully requested. Upon approval by the Examiner, replacement formal drawings will be submitted under separate Letter to the Draftsperson.

Attachment: Annotated Sheet Showing Changes

REMARKS

Claims 1-7, 11 and 31-34 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent 6,876,143 B2 (to Daniels) in view of U.S. Patent 6,154,479 (to Yoshikawa et al.).

Claims 8-10 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent 6,876,143 B2 (to Daniels) in view of U.S. Patent 6,154,479 (to Yoshikawa et al.) and further in view of U.S. Patent 6,825,963 (to Kittaka et al.).

Claims 1 and 31 herewith are amended. Reconsideration and allowance of the claims as amended is requested for the following reasons. The present invention is directed to asymmetric light emitting structure for producing polarized light that includes a light emitting layer that is internal to a vertical cavity laser structure having a plurality of light emitting species. The light emitting species are randomly oriented. An asymmetric geometric element that receives emitted light from an excitation layer and produces polarized light is coupled with a means for excitation of the excitation layer. Claims 1 and 31 have been amended to emphasize the feature of random orientation of the excitation layer per the Examiner's suggestion.

With regard to claims 1-11 and 31-34, the Examiner states that the claims are indefinite, because there was no explicit definition in the specification for "light emitting species." The Applicants have amended the specification to include said definition. It is believed, therefore, that claims 1 and 31 meet the requirements of 35 USC 112. The claims depending from these claims are, therefore, likewise considered to meet the requirements of 35 USC 112. The specification has been amended to only describe those structures that are consistent with the definition employed for "asymmetric geometric element."

The Applicant addresses the problem of providing for an integrated assembly that includes a means of optical pumping for an organic laser cavity structure. This novel approach provides for a low cost, compact, robust device architecture, because no alignment of separate components is necessary for light registration. Daniels does not teach vertical cavity structures, and Yoshikawa has no interest in solving this problem, because the pumping means are already integral to the inorganic device. Notwithstanding, the orientation of the light emitting species in Yoshikawa is precisely controlled and does not have a random orientation, because what is disclosed are crystalline inorganic semiconductor films. There is no disclosure of random orientation for the structure. Examiner has failed to make a prima facie case, because at least one of Applicants' features is missing in the cited combination.

Processing of the inorganic thin film structure to create an inorganic VCSEL, as disclosed by Yoshikawa is incompatible with the conditions necessary to fabricate organic light emitting structures as disclosed in Daniels. In fact, the processing conditions disclosed in Yoshikawa would destroy the organic device disclosed in Daniels without using substantial fabricator inventiveness. Consequently, there would be no motivation whatsoever to combine the teachings of Daniels with that of Yoshikawa.

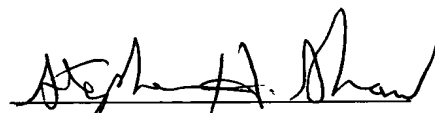
It is believed that independent claims 1 and 31 are unobvious in light of the combination Daniels in view of Yoshikawa. The remaining claims are dependent from these claims and are considered to be patentable for at least the same reasons.

Applicants have reviewed the cited art made of record and believe that singly or in any suitable combination, they do not render Applicants' claimed invention unpatentable. It is believed that the claims in the application are allowable over the cited art and such allowance is respectfully requested.

Should the Examiner consider that additional amendments are necessary to place the application in condition for allowance, the favor is requested of a telephone call to the undersigned counsel for the purpose of discussing such amendments.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees in connection with this communication to Eastman Kodak Company Deposit Account No. 05-0225.

Respectfully submitted,



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If the Examiner is unable to reach the Applicant(s) Attorney at the telephone number provided, the Examiner is requested to communicate with Eastman Kodak Company Patent Operations at (585) 477-4656.